1. Monday market-Thalakulam road. This should be extended.
2. Friday market-Eraniel road.
3. Thikkanamcode-Puthur road.
4. Neyyoor-Chempanvila road. This road should be extended by about ¾ of a furlong from its present terminus and the encroachments on it should be removed.

In the interests of poor ryots an order should also be issued exempting applications for *karivu* certificates from payment of court fee of chs. 2 each as at present.

The Additional Munsiff's Court at Thuckalai should be shifted to Eraniel or some convenient place in the neighbourhood of Eraniel. This subject was one which was brought to the notice of Government several times, but with no result. It was hoped that the people who were so eagerly looking forward to the change would not be disappointed in the end.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kesavan Tampi, you are correct in thinking that the Chief Engineer and the Director of Agriculture have set their thoughts in the direction of minor irrigation and I can also assure you that an increasing purpose runs in the Government's attitude towards minor irrigation. So far as the name goes, it mis-describes the position. Minor irrigation is far from being a minor subject. We are at present evolving proposals for the improvement of minor irrigation generally and for the agencies which will bring about the desired effect. All you said in regard to channels and communications will be forwarded to the Chief Engineer for investigation and report.

Turning to the Munsiff's Court which you would like to see transferred from Thuckalai to Eraniel, this is a matter which was brought to the notice of the Assembly by Mr. Subramonia Pillai last year. It was referred to the High Court and the High Court, although they did not consider that a transfer is immediately necessary, will take the question up in connection with the redistribution of the territorial jurisdiction of courts in Travancore.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 2 P. M. and re-assembled at 3 P. M.

69. Needs of the Vilavancode taluk.

MR. R. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Member, Vilavancode taluk*) thanked the Dewan for visiting the Vilavancode taluk more than once during the recent cholera epidemic and for taking a personal interest in the progress of the relief measures in the taluk. He also requested that Government should make a suitable contribution to the cholera relief fund collected by the public with a view to the protection of the many children left destitute after the epidemic.

He next referred to the Patanalummudu evening market. In reply to his representation on the subject at the 24th session of the Assembly, he had received a letter from Government, from which he understood that Government were at one with the Land Revenue

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Commissioner in his view that the Patanalummudu market was a day-market and not an evening market. Ordinarily, a day-market was taken to mean a market which was held throughout the day from morning to evening and an evening market a market which was held in the evening only. The Land Revenue Commissioner, however, seemed to think that every market was a day market if it was held at any time during the day and that an evening-market was one which was held only after sun-set. If that definition were correct, then certainly the Patanalummudu market was a day market, because it was held after 4 P. M. on every Wednesday and Saturday. But Government should consider whether such a market was an evening market or a day market and decide whether like all evening markets it should be exempted from collection of tolls. On no other day than Wednesday and Saturday was any business carried on in this market. On other days probably some Pulaya women could be seen vending their head loads of grass outside the market; nothing more was being done. On this point also the Land Revenue Commissioner seemed to hold a different view. He would not have been of that opinion, had he taken the trouble of inspecting the market at least once. On the regular market days themselves, what stuff was sold in the market was made up of one or two baskets-ful of fish, some bran, and some betel and tobacco. The poor people who brought these things had to pay a toll of 4 cash each. The volume of business in the market could be gauged from the fact that the total income from tolls in 1102 was Rs. 158, in 1103 Rs. 160 and in 1104 Rs. 241. Government should view the question in the light of all these circumstances and order the exemption of this market from collection of tolls.

The P. W. D. toll-gate at Kuzhithura should either be abolished or be removed from its present site to some-where about the 19th or the 25th mile. It was now located at the centre of the Vilavancode taluk so that no vehicle could be taken to the public institutions on either side of it without paying a toll. Similarly one of the two toll-gates in the locality situated to the east and the west respectively of the Kuzhitura bridge should be abolished, preferably the one to the west.

No toddy shops or arrack shops should be allowed to be located near schools, temples or other places of public resort. There should not also be more than one such shop within 5 square miles.

The Edakode pakuthi and the western parts of the Kaliyal pakuthi should be transferred from the jurisdiction of the Thiruvattar police station to Kuzhithura. The distance between Edakode and Kuzhithura was only 2 miles, whereas Thiruvattar was 9 miles away from Edacode. Similarly, the distance between Kuzhithura and the western parts of Kaliyal was only 8 miles, whereas Thiruvattar was 20 miles away from Kaliyal. It was understood that the Allocation Officer had recommended the transfer of Edakode alone to Kuzhithura. If the western parts of Kaliyal could not be transferred to the jurisdiction of Kuzhithura, they might well be brought under Neyyattinkara which was only 8

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miles away. The Police out-post in Neyyattinkara within a mile of the places in question could also be made serviceable to the people of the locality.

A Government dispensary should be established at Puthukada. The people did not want a grant-in-aid dispensary there. In case a Government dispensary could not be allowed, they would rather go without a dispensary than have a private institution.

A grant-in-aid should be awarded to the Mahatma Gandhi dispensary.

Arrangements should be made for the appointment of a qualified doctor in the Mission Hospital, Kuzhithura. If the Mission authorities did not find it feasible to have one, the grant-in-aid given to the hospital should be withdrawn. Government had recently informed the member, on a report from the Administrative Board, Medical Services, that a qualified doctor had been appointed in the hospital. The doctor who was appointed did not as a matter of fact hold any registrable qualification.

The following public works should be taken in hand at once :

(1) Opening of a road from Devikotta to Tholikottu, provision of a junghar at Ganapathiyamkadavu on the Puthukada—Kollamkode road, and construction of a bridge at Poovar and of a few culverts. If these works were done a good road would become available from the Cape along the beach to Trivandrum.

(2) Opening of a road from Kuzhithura *via* Madichal.

(3) Construction of the Alamchola-Pattukani road. The Forest Department had recommended the opening of a road in the locality.

(4) Speedy construction of the Panachamudu-Martandum road, Arumana-Panachamudu road, Arumana-Attoor road and other roads and bridges about which representations had been made in former sessions of the Assembly.

(5) Taking over for departmental maintenance the road from Pataunalummudu to the Kuzhithura-Pattanam road. About this road Government had informed the member that it could not be taken over unless the people surrendered the necessary lands free of cost. But a declaration from the people surrendering the lands had been submitted to the Dewan even 10 years ago at the 15th Session of the Assembly and they had also done the earthwork necessary for laying out the road. Government should now take over the maintenance of the road and provide the necessary culverts.

(6) Metalling and widening of all the roads in the taluk ;

(7) Investigation of the Chittar scheme ;

(8) Repair of tanks ;

(9) Provision of two water pumps at Kuzhithura ;

(10) Restoration of the Nallurkulam and Madichal Chinnankulam.

Government should also abolish the system of requiring the people to contribute one-half of the cost of minor irrigation works in the taluk.

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DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Narayana Pillai, the first part of your representation is devoted to the question of a market. You put the query as to when a market is a day market and when it is an evening market. All markets are day markets if they are not evening markets and to enable you to distinguish between a day market and an evening market I will read out the definition of an evening market under Regulation VII of 1092 :

"Evening markets, commonly known as *anthikadas*, are places which are not enclosed or provided with permanent structures or covered stalls and which are the daily resort, during the afternoons and evenings, of poor persons for the purpose of buying, selling or bartering foodstuffs and petty articles of household use."

MEMBER : The compound wall was constructed only after levy of toll.

DEWAN: Will you kindly listen to what I have got to say on the subject? As a matter of fact the fees realised from this market during 1102 came to Rs. 158, and in 1103, to Rs. 241. What we get from the market is very trifling and I shall ask the Land Revenue Commissioner to go and inspect the market and report to me whether these collections can be stopped.

I wonder if you fully realise the difficulty if toll-gate contractors are permitted to collect tolls on two days in the week and not on other days. The contractors like other human beings sometimes have lapses of memory.

Then you go on with the question of the difficulty the people experience for want of a Government dispensary near Martandum, whence they can draw their medicines and medical supplies free of cost. As you know, one reason why we have not opened a Government dispensary is because there is a grant-in-aid hospital already at Martandum. I just asked the Inspecting Medical Officer whether a properly qualified medical man has been appointed at Martandum. Dr. Tampi tells me that a new medical man has been appointed to the Martandum hospital. I am also informed that the doctor does not possess registrable qualification. But Dr. Tampi has promised to watch the progress of the institution and examine the fitness of this medical man. I shall also ask him to report upon the efficiency of the hospital. As you know we do not give grants to inefficient private medical institutions and the continuance of the grant-in-aid will depend upon its efficiency.

The other important matter you go into is the question of the toll gates. Quite recently there was one toll gate alone at Kuzhithura. Then the contractor complained that people who wanted to evade toll could do so by taking a circuitous route and to protect the contractor the southern toll gate was established. I shall ask the Chief Engineer to re-examine the position and see whether it is possible in the place of the two toll gates to have only one toll gate. Your other points with regards to roads and so on will receive due attention.

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